Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4 TAGS: PINT, JA

SUBJ: LOCKHEED AFFAIR: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S STATEMENT BEFORE

PROXMIRE SUBCOMMITTEE

REF: STATE 054193

1. I MET WITH DIRGEN AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU YAMAZAKI AT 0915
HOURS MARCH 6 TO CONVEY SUBSTANCE OF US POSITION CONCERNING
EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AS OUTLINED IN PARAS 22 THROUGH 25
OF REFTEL. (BY TIME OF MEETING, FOREIGN OFFICE ALREADY HAD RECEIVED
FULL TEXT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY'S STATEMENT FROM JAPANESE EMBASSY
WASHINGTON.) IN DOING SO, I CALLED YAMAZAKI'S ATTENTION TO FACT
THAT DEPUTY SECRETARY'S REMARKS WERE GENERAL STATEMENT OF BASIC
POLICY WHICH USG INTENDED TO FOLLOW IN SUCH SITUATIONS AND THAT
THERE HAD BEEN NO SPECIFIC MENTION OF ANY PARTICULAR COUNTRY.
YAMAZAKI COMMENTED THAT ALTHOUGH DEPUTY SECRETARY'S STATEMENT SHOULD
NOT BE CONSTRUED AS A USG REPLY TO PRIME MINISTER MIKI'S LETTER HE
ASSUMED THAT THAT REPLY WOULD QTE BE IN LINE UNQTE WITH DEPUTY
SECRETARY'S STATEMENT. I SAID I THOUGH THAT A REASONABLE ASSUMPTION.

2. YAMAZAKI SAID THAT INGERSOLL STATEMENT WOULD BE BROUGHT PROMPTLY TO ATTENTION OF PRIME MINISTER, FOREIGN MINISTER AND OTHR CABINET MEMBERS MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED. HE COULD NOT BE CERTAIN THAT GOJ WOULD WISH TO COMMENT ON STATEMENT BEFORE RECEIVING PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER, AND HE AGAIN EXPRESSED STRONG HOPE THAT THIS REPLY WOULD BE FORTHCOMING SOONEST. FUJII, WHO ALSO PRESENT,

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EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT GOVERNMENT MAY BE UNDER PRESSURE TO SEEK

LESS RESTRICTIVE CONDITIONS ON HANDLING OF ANY MATERIAL RELEASED. (FUJII UNDOUBTEDLY HAD IN MIND DIET INTERPELLATIONS MARCH 5 DURING WHICH OPPOSITION PARTIES PRESSED GOVERNMENT NOT TO AGREE TO CONDITIONS

WHICH WOULD PRECLUDE MAKING PUBLIC WHATEVER INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM US INCLUDING NAMES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED.) FUJII NOTED THAT THE LONGER THE INTERVAL UNTIL RECEIPT OF THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY THE GREATER SUCH PRESSURES WOULD BE.

3. IN RESPONDING TO PRESS QUERIES ON SUBSTANCE OF STATEMENT FUJII THOUGHT THAT FOREIGN OFFICE SHOULD STATE ONLY THAT THESE NOW UNDER STUDY AND THAT GOJ MIGHT WISH TO SEEK FURTHER CLARIFICATION.

IN ADDITION, IT MIGHT BE NOTED THAT INGERSOLL STATEMENT WAS ONE OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES APPLYING TO NUMBER OF INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS AND THAT GOJ IS AWAITING PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER.

4. I URGED YAMAZAKI TO LET ME HAVE HIS GOVERNMENT'S REACTIONS AND ANY QUESTIONS IT MAY HAVE SOONEST. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD DO SO BUT THOUGHT THAT IF FURTHER CLARIFICATION IS NEEDED IT MIGHT BE MORE EXPEDITIOUS TO DO SO THROUGH JAPANESE EMBASSY WASHINGTON. I AGREED.
SHOESMITH

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